

Amendment No. 2 to SJR0136

Faison  
Signature of Sponsor

**AMEND Senate Joint Resolution No. 136\* <HB>**

By deleting all language following the caption and substituting the following:

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court from 1993 to 2020; and

WHEREAS, remembered as "a jurist of historic stature" and "a tireless and resolute champion of justice" by Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Justice Ginsburg was the second woman and first Jewish woman appointed to the Supreme Court in U.S. history; and

WHEREAS, nominated to the Supreme Court by President Bill Clinton in 1993, Ruth Bader Ginsburg was noted for her pointed and powerful dissenting opinions and longevity on the court; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of Nathan Bader and the former Celia Amster, Ruth Bader Ginsburg was born on March 15, 1933, and grew up in the Flatbush neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Bader Ginsburg attended Cornell University on a scholarship; during her freshman year, she met Martin Ginsburg, a fellow student who would become the love of her life. The couple were married in 1954 and enjoyed a lifelong romantic and intellectual partnership that endured until Martin Ginsburg's death in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Justice Ginsburg graduated in a tie for first in her class at Columbia Law School; in 1972, she became the first woman to receive tenure on the faculty of Columbia Law School; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career, one of Ruth Bader Ginsburg's principal goals was the advancement of women's rights; to that end, she cofounded the first U.S. law journal to focus on women's rights; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Bader Ginsburg argued several cases before the Supreme Court that were to become legal landmarks. She presented six cases to the court between 1973 and 1978 and won five, including *Reed v. Reed* (1971), which ensured that the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantee of equal protection applied not only to racial discrimination but to sex discrimination as well; and

WHEREAS, before her appointment to the Supreme Court, Justice Ginsburg served as a federal judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals, to which she was nominated by President Jimmy Carter in 1980; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Bader Ginsburg became elevated to pop culture stardom and referred to as "The Notorious R.B.G.", a moniker lifted from rapper The Notorious B.I.G. She was beloved and was the subject of the documentary *RBG* and the feature film *On the Basis of Sex*; and

WHEREAS, Justice Ginsburg was also known for the wide variety of decorative collars worn with her judicial robes; she collected collars from around the world and had a favorite to wear when issuing a majority opinion and another for a dissent, which made her views crystal clear before she ever uttered a word; and

WHEREAS, former President of the United States Donald J. Trump remarked on the passing of Justice Ginsburg, "She led an amazing life. What else can you say? She was an amazing woman, whether you agreed or not, she was an amazing woman."; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Bader Ginsburg is survived by her two children, Jane, a professor of intellectual property law at Columbia Law School, and James, a producer of classical music recordings in Chicago, and her four grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Bader Ginsburg leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional jurist and pioneering advocate for women's rights; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we celebrate the life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, even as we honor her memory and pay tribute to her distinguished service as a United States Supreme Court Justice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Justice Ginsburg.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.